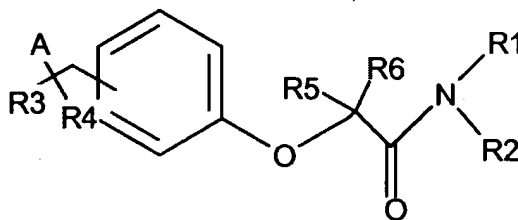


In the Claims. Applicants request amendment of the Claims prior to any action on the merits. The following listing of the claims shall replace all previous versions.

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A Compound of the structural formula I:

Formula I



(a) R1 is hydrogen;

(b) R2' ~~is are each independently~~ selected from a group consisting of C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, arylC₀-C₂alkoxy, haloC₁-C₃alkyl, halo, aryl, -C(O)C₁-C₅alkyl, -C(O)-aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkyloxy, arylC₁-C₅alkyl, and biarylC₁-C₅alkyl; and which -C(O)-aryl is unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C₁-C₅ alkyl, haloC₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, and -C(O)C₁-C₅alkyl; and which C₁-C₅ alkyl, arylC₁-C₅alkyl, biarylC₁-C₅alkyl, and aryl are each independently unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C₁-C₈alkyl, aryl, haloC₁-C₅ alkyl, trihaloC₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₅alkoxy, and arylC₁-C₅alkyl; and which aryl is unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C₁-C₈alkyl, aryl, haloC₁-C₅ alkyl, trihaloC₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₅alkoxy, and arylC₁-C₅alkyl;

(c) R2 is selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, aryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, aminoC₁-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkylaryl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, arylheteroC₁-C₈alkyl, C₀₋₄-alkyl-C(O)heteroC₁-C₈alkyl, -CH(C(O)OCH₃)benzyl, and -CH₂-C(O)-R15''-R16'', and which C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, aryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, aminoC₁-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkylaryl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, arylheteroC₁-C₈alkyl, C₀₋₄-alkyl-

C(O)heteroC₁-C₈alkyl, and -CH₂-C(O)-R15''-R16'' are each independently unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R2';

(d) R15'' is O or NH;

(e) R16'' is C₁-C₂ alkyl or benzyl which C₁-C₂ alkyl and benzyl are each unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R16';

(f) R7' and R7'' are each independently selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₄ alkyl and C₁-C₄ haloalkyl;

(g) n and m are each independently selected from the group consisting of 0, 1, 2 and 3;

(h) A is selected from the group consisting of (CH₂)_m COOR14, C₁-C₃alkylnitrile, carboxamide, sulfonamide, acylsulfonamide and tetrazole, and which sulfonamide, acylsulfonamide and tetrazole are each independently unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of A';

(i) A' is a group consisting of C₁-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, heteroaryl, and aryl, and wherein heteroaryl and aryl are each independently unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of halo, C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ haloalkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, and -C(O) C₁-C₅ alkyl;

(j) R3 is selected from the group consisting of H, C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ alkenyl, and C₁-C₆ alkoxy;

(k) R4 is selected from the group consisting of H, halo, C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, aryl C₀-C₄ alkyl, and C₀-C₄alkoxyaryl, and which C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, aryl C₀-C₄ alkyl, and C₀-C₄alkoxyaryl are each independently unsubstituted or each independently substituted with from one to four substituents each independently selected from R4'; or R3 and R4 are combined to form a C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl;

(l) R5 and R6 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₈ alkyl, aryl-C₀-C₄-alkyl, heteroaryl-C₀-C₄-alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkylaryl-C₀-

2-alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, and -CH₂-C(O)-R₁₇-R₁₈, and which C₁-C₈ alkyl, aryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, heteroaryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkylaryl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, and -CH₂-C(O)-R₁₇-R₁₈ are each independently unsubstituted or substituted with from one to four substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R_{5'};

(m) R_{4'}, R_{5'}, and R_{13''} are each independently a group consisting of C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, C₁-C₅ haloalkyl, C₁-C₅ haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, CHO, □hydroxyl, C₁-C₄ alkanolic acid, phenyl, aryloxy, SO₂R_{7'}, SR_{7''}, arylC₀₋₂alkoxy, C₁-C₆alkylcarboxamido, and COOH;

(n) R_{16'} is a group consisting of halo, C₁-C₈alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, trihaloC₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₅alkoxy, and arylC₁-C₅alkyl;

(o) R₁₇ and R₁₈ are each independently selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, aryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, heteroaryl-C₀₋₄-alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkylaryl-C₀₋₂-alkyl, and C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl-C₀₋₂-alkyl;

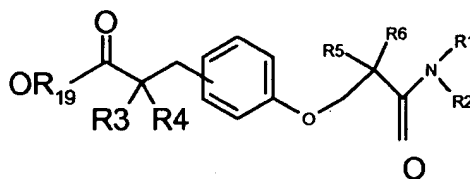
(p) R₁₄ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₄alkyl, aryl, and arylmethyl, and which C₁-C₄alkyl are each independently unsubstituted or independently substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R_{13'} and which arylmethyl and aryl are each independently unsubstituted or independently substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R_{14'};

(q) R_{13'} is a group consisting of C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, C₁-C₅ haloalkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, aryloxy, halo, aryl, -C(O)C₁-C₅alkyl, -C(O)-aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkyloxy, aryl C₁-C₅ alkyl, and C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, and which -C(O)aryl, aryl, aryl C₁-C₅ alkyl, and C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl are each independently unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R_{13''}; and

(r) R_{14'} is a group consisting of halo, C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₅ haloalkyl, C₁-C₅ alkoxy, and arylC₀₋₄alkyl; or

(s) a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

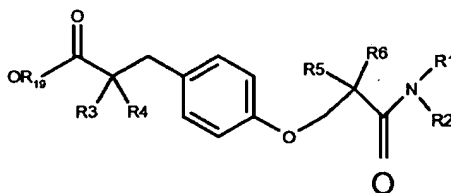
2. (Original) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 of the structural Formula II:



II

wherein R19 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C4alkyl, aryl, and arylmethyl, wherein the alkyl, aryl and arylmethyl are each unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from R14'.

3. (Previously presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 2 that is of the following structural formula III:



III

wherein R19 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C4alkyl, aryl, and arylmethyl, wherein the alkyl, aryl and arylmethyl are each unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from R14'.

4. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 wherein R1 is hydrogen:

5. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 4 wherein R2 is selected from the group consisting of arylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₈ alkyl, heteroarylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, C₀-C₄alkyl-C(O)-heteroC₁-C₈ alkyl, arylheteroC₁-C₈alkyl, wherein each of said R2 is unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of phenyl, halophenyl, phenoxy, halo, haloC₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy, and C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl.

6. (Original) A compound as claimed by Claim 5 wherein R2 is arylC₀-C₄alkyl wherein the aryl is phenyl or naphthyl, and the C₀-C₄alkyl is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl and not present, that is C₀ alkyl.

7. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 5 wherein R2 is heteroarylC₀-C₄alkyl, and said heteroarylC₀-C₄alkyl is unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from R2'; and wherein the heteroaryl is selected from the group consisting of pyridine, thiazole, benzothiazole, and thiadiazole; and the alkyl is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl and not present, that is C₀ alkyl.

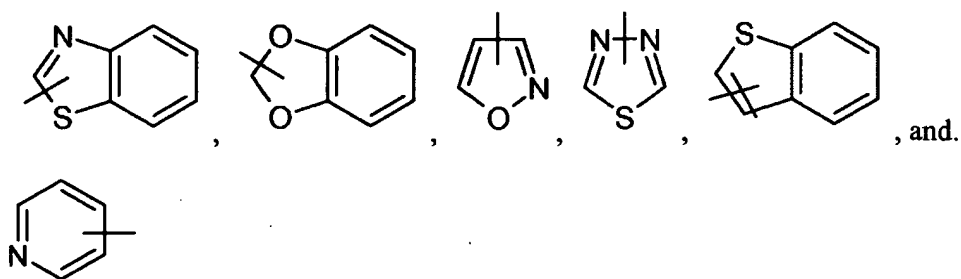
8. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 5 wherein R2 is arylheteroC₁-C₈alkyl, wherein the arylheteroC₁-C₈alkyl is unsubstituted or substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R2'; wherein the aryl group is phenyl, and the heteroatom is selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, sulfur and oxygen.

7 9. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by of Claim 8 wherein the R2 group is substituted with one or two substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, t-butyl, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, trifluoromethyl, methoxyl, ethoxyl, phenyl, and phenoxyl.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 1, wherein said piperidine and piperazine is fused with a phenyl to form a bicyclic ring.

12. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 1, wherein R2 is unsubstituted or substituted heteroarylC₀-C₄alkyl; wherein said heteroaryl is selected from the group consisting of:



13. (Canceled).

⁸ ~~14.~~ (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 wherein R2 is – CH(C(O)OCH₃)benzyl.

⁹ ~~15.~~ (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 or Claim 4 wherein R6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₄ alkyl, and aryl-C₀-₄-alkyl, wherein the alkyl and arylalkyl are each independently substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R5'.

¹⁰ ~~16.~~ (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 15 wherein R5 is H or methyl.

¹¹ ~~17.~~ (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by any one of Claims 1 or Claim 16 wherein R6 is C₁-C₃ alkyl.

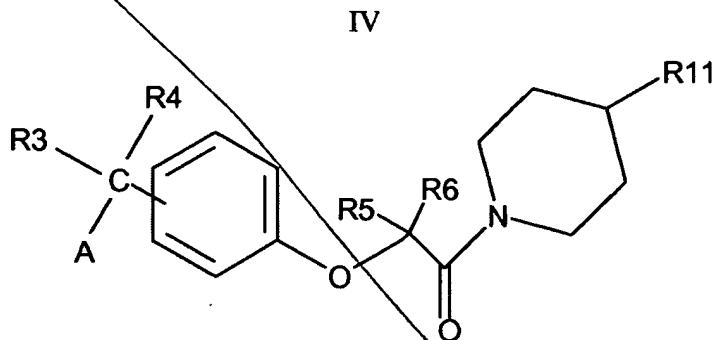
¹² ~~18.~~ (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 17, wherein R6 is methyl.

19. (Canceled)

¹³ ~~20.~~ (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 wherein R5 is hydrogen or methyl, R6 is C₁-C₃ alkyl, and R3 is C₁-C₃alkoxy.

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21. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 wherein A is C(O)OR₂₆; R₂₆ is H or C₁-C₃alkyl.

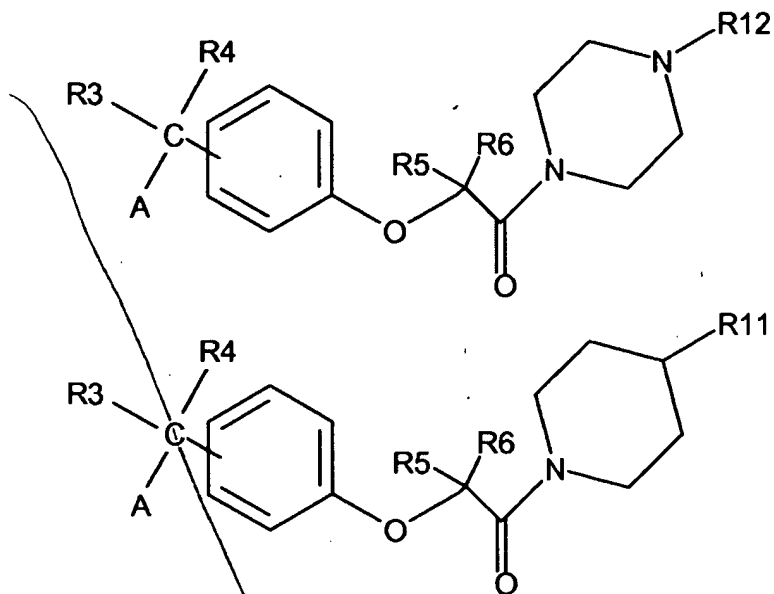
22. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 that is of the structural formula IV:



wherein R₁₁ is selected from the group consisting of aryl, -C(O)aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkyloxy, C₁-C₅ alkylaryl, C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, aryloxy, and C₁-C₆ alkyl, wherein the aryl, -C(O)aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkyloxy, C₁-C₅ alkylaryl, C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, and C₁-C₆ alkyl are each independently unsubstituted or each independently substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R₁'.

23. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 that is of the structural formula V:

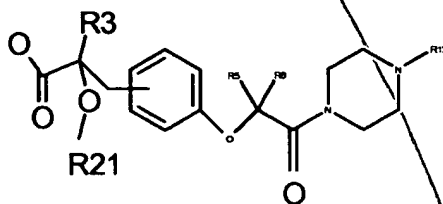
V



wherein R12 is selected from the group consisting of aryl, aryloxy, -C(O)aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkyloxy, C₁-C₅ alkylaryl, C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, and C1-C6 alkyl, wherein the aryl, -C(O)aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkyloxy, C₁-C₅ alkylaryl, C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, and C1-C6 alkyl are each independently unsubstituted or each independently substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R1'.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Withdrawn) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 that is of the structural formula VII:



VII

wherein wherein R12 is selected from the group consisting of aryl, aryloxy, -C(O)aryl, haloC₁-C₅alkyloxy, arylC₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, and C1-C6 alkyl, wherein the aryl, -C(O)aryl, aryloxy, haloC₁-C₅alkyloxy, C₁-C₅ alkylaryl, C₁-C₅ alkylbiaryl, and C1-C6

alkyl are each independently unsubstituted or each independently substituted with from one to three substituents each independently selected from the group consisting of R1'; R25 is selected from the group consisting of C1-C4alkyl, halo, haloC1-C3alkyl, C1-C5 alkoxy, and phenyl.

26. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 which is selected from the group consisting of:

(2S,1'R)-2-Ethoxy-3-(4-{1'-[2-(4-phenoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid; (2S,1'R)-2-Ethoxy-3-(4-{1'-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid; (2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1'-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1'-[2-(2-ethoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-{4-[1'-(3-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-{4-[1'-(3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-3-(4-{1'-[(biphenyl-3-ylmethyl)-carbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-3-(4-{1'-[2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1'-[2-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1'-[2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-3-(4-{1'-[2-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-3-(4-{1'-[2-(2,6-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-3-(4-{1'-[2-(2-chloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;(2S,1'R)-3-(4-{1'-[2-(4-tert-butyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-{4-[1'-(4-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;(2S,1'R)-2-ethoxy-3-{4-[1'-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

(2S,1'R)-3-{4-[1'-(4-tert-butyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;(2S,1'R)-3-{4-[1'-(4-tert-butyl-phenylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;(2S,1'R)-3-{4-[1'-(4-trans-tert-butyl-cyclohexylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-{4-[1-(4-tert-butyl-cyclohexylcarbamoyl)-1-methyl-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-methoxy-3-(4-{1-methyl-1-[2-(4-phenoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2-ethoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

2-methoxy-3-(4-{1-methyl-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-methoxy-3-{4-[1-methyl-1-(3-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2-chloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[(biphenyl-3-ylmethyl)-carbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1-methyl-1-[2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-ethoxy-3-{4-[1-(3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-1-methyl-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2-chloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid; (2S)-3-(4-{1-[(biphenyl-3-ylmethyl)-carbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1-[2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-{3-[1-(4-tert-butyl-cyclohexylcarbamoyl)-1-methyl-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-{3-[1-(3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-1-methyl-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(3-{1-[(biphenyl-3-ylmethyl)-carbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(3-{1-[2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-methoxy-3-{4-[(1-phenyl-ethylcarbamoyl)-methoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(3-{1-[2-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(3-{1-[2-(2,6-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-3-(4-{1-[2-(2,6-dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(2S)-2-ethoxy-3-(4-{1-[2-(2-ethoxy-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-1-methyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[1-(3-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[1-(5-fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[1-(3-phenyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[1-(4-phenoxy-phenylethylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[1-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenylethylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid;

3-(4-{1-[2-(2,6-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-(4-{1-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

2-Ethoxy-3-(4-{1-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

3-(4-{Cyclohexyl-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-methoxy}-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-propionic acid; and

2-Ethoxy-3-(4-{1-[2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-2-phenyl-ethoxy}-phenyl)-propionic acid; and

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

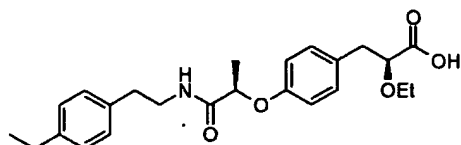
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27. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

(2S,1'R)-3-{4-[1'-(4-tert-butyl-cyclohexylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid; or

pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

- 17
~~28.~~ (Original) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 wherein the compound is



; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29. (Canceled)

- 18
~~30.~~ (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and at least one compound as claimed by Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

31. (Canceled)

- 19
~~32.~~ (Previously Presented) A method of treating diabetes mellitus in a mammal, comprising the step of administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound of Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- ~~33. (Previously Presented) A method of preventing diabetes mellitus in a mammal, comprising the step of administering to the mammal an effective amount of at least one compound of Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.~~

- 20
~~34.~~ (Previously Presented) A method of treating Syndrome X in a mammal, comprising the step of administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound of Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

35. (Canceled)

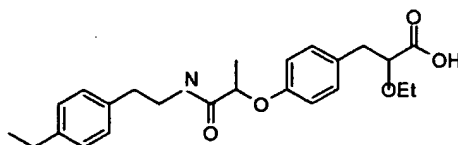
21 ~~36.~~ (Previously Presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to Claim 1 for use as a medicine.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

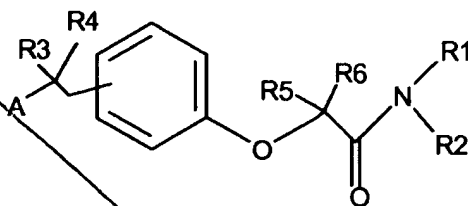
39. (Canceled)

22 ~~40.~~ (Previously Presented) A compound of the formula



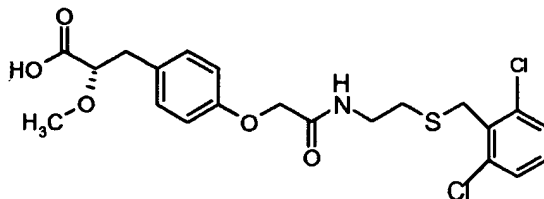
; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

41. (Withdrawn) A Compound of the formula



Wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₄alkyl and arylC₀-C₄alkyl; R2 is selected from the group consisting of arylC₀-C₄alkyl, and heteroarylC₀-C₄alkyl; or a pharmaceutical acceptable salt thereof.

23 ~~42.~~ (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by Claim 1 that is of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- 24 ~~43.~~ (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed by any one of Claims 1, or 42 wherein the compound is a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.
- 25 ~~44.~~ (Previously Presented) A compound of Claim 1 that is (2S)-3-(4-{[2-(2,6-dichloro-benzylsulfanyl)-ethylcarbamoyl]-methoxy}-phenyl)-2-methoxy-propionic acid.
- 26 ~~45.~~ (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and at least one compound as claimed by Claim 42 or 44.